

REMARKS

Reconsideration of Applicant's Claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6 have been rejected as being anticipated by the disclosure of KASHIWARA since the Abstract, as referred to in paragraph 5 of the Office Action, refers to "a conical inner side." Close examination of the Abstract relates that "a hollow cylindrical ground electrode" is emphasized.

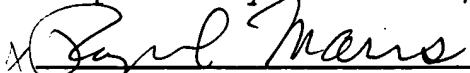
In contrast, Applicant claims a tapered or bell-shaped, frustum-conical passageway that has a slight linear side wall at the reduced opening to the passageway which merges with a tapered side wall leading to a wider mouth. KASHIWARA's Abstract further defines a "cylindrical hole" which calls for a straight through linear side wall.

Therefore, it appears that Applicant's structure as claimed is patentably distinctive over the KASHIWARA disclosure. One of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated by the KASHIWARA disclosure to practice the claimed combination of Applicant.

Allowance of Claims 7 and 8 is respectfully requested.

Enclosed is an Extension of Time to File Fee.

Respectfully submitted,



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